

PROJECT SUMMARY

<p>SNC Reference Number (enter if previously assigned)</p>
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County: Mariposa

Applicant: Mariposa County Resource Conservation District (MCRCD)

Project Title: Mariposa County IRWMP Launch Project

PROJECT GOAL

The goal of this Integrated Regional Water Management Plan (IRWMP) Launch Project is to initiate a broad-based, collaborative process that will produce a planning grant proposal, in turn leading to the completion and implementation of a stakeholder-based integrated regional water management plan that will embrace all of Mariposa County.

PROJECT SCOPE

This project will address the development of an IRWMP for Mariposa County's three major drainage basins and their component watersheds--the Merced River Basin, the Chowchilla/Fresno River Basin and the Lower Mariposa County Group of Streams (Mariposa County General Plan, Technical Background Report, December 2006). The MCRCD will initiate a process to establish a collaborative regional water planning team in Mariposa County to address multiple water issues, increase stakeholder coordination across jurisdictional boundaries to develop high cost-benefit projects, and streamline the disbursement of funding across the region. Water issues to be addressed include groundwater management, protection of water quality, preservation and enhancement of working landscapes, improvement of water structures and facilities, removal and control of invasive species, protection and enhancement of fish and wildlife habitat, recreation and reduction or prevention of soil erosion, particularly within the 35,000 acres of Upper Merced River watershed lands burned in the 2008 Telegraph Fire.

This launch project represents Phase 1 of a long-term process. It will enable a core team of Mariposa County stakeholders, with the help of a consultant from the Sierra Nevada Alliance, to launch a broad, stakeholder-based IRWM Planning process and governance structure for Mariposa County and its associated watersheds. The expected outcome of the launch project is a planning grant proposal to DWR to develop the IRWM Plan (Phase 2). If funded, the plan will provide the basis for implementation grant proposals to fund specific projects in Phase 3.

LETTERS OF SUPPORT

Mariposa County Board of Supervisors
Mariposa County Planning Department
Mariposa County Fire Department
Mariposa County Economic Dev. Office
Mariposa Public Utility District

Merced Irrigation District
Mariposa County Unified Sch. Dist.
National Park Service--Yosemite NP
U.S. Forest Service--Sierra, Stanislaus
Bureau of Land Management

Natural Resources Conservation Service	Merced River Conservation Comm.
EDC of Mariposa County	Yosemite Association
Mariposa County Agricultural Commissioner	Yosemite Area Audubon Society
Mariposa County Farm Bureau	Chowchilla/Fresno River Watershed
Yosemite/Mariposa County Tourism Bureau	Yosemite/Sequoia RC & D
Mariposans for the Environment and Responsible Government	

SNC PROJECT DELIVERABLES AND SCHEDULE

DETAILED PROJECT DELIVERABLES	TIMELINE
Hire a project manager and administrative assistant.	Oct. 2008
Recruit, select and contract for a grant writer and facilitator.	Oct. 2008 – Nov. 2008
Conduct outreach (personal contacts, public presentations, media releases, workshops) to stakeholders to seek input and participation in the planning process.	Oct. 2008 – Feb. 2009
Develop a governance structure, regional boundaries, goals and objectives, data-management strategies and a planning process.	Nov. 2008 – Feb. 2009
Identify, collect and analyze existing local water- and land-use planning documents and data, and synthesize the information into a comprehensive report.	Nov. 2008 – Feb. 2009
Conduct monthly coordination meetings.	Nov. 2008 – Feb. 2009
Establish and maintain a Mariposa County IRWMP website.	Nov. 2008 – Feb. 2009
Draft, finalize and submit to DWR a Mariposa County IRWMP planning grant proposal.	Nov. 2008 – Feb. 2009

SNC PROJECT COSTS

PROJECT BUDGET CATEGORIES	TOTAL SNC FUNDING
Project manager	\$11,500
Workshop facilitator	\$ 5,000
Consultant to write grant proposal to DWR	\$19,000
Administrative assistant	\$ 5,800
Workers comp and payroll tax	\$ 2,100
Sierra Nevada Alliance staff consultation	\$ 1,000
Mileage for facilitator	\$ 800
Meeting expenses (materials, facilities)	\$ 700
Indirect costs	\$ 4,000
SNC GRANT TOTAL	\$49,900